

**CLEAN AIR ACT
SECTIONS 103 AND 105
FY 2005 GRANT SOLICITATION NOTICE**

FULL TEXT ANNOUNCEMENT

I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

Background and Purpose

It is EPA policy to work with Indian Nations on a government-to-government basis to enhance environmental protection in Indian Country. The purpose of this grant program is to provide funding for tribal air pollution control programs and projects which support tribal air quality assessment and the development of tribal air program capacity. Funds are available for tribal air grants under Sections 103 and 105 of the Clean Air Act (CAA). All grant activities must be related to air pollution and/or air pollution control. In addition, the goal of these grants is to assist tribes in developing the capacity to manage their own air quality programs in accordance with their individual needs. EPA expects grantees will use quarterly reports to document quantifiable environmental results.

II. AWARD INFORMATION

Last year, under Sections 103 and 105 of the Clean Air Act (CAA), EPA Region 9 awarded approximately \$2.4 million to sixteen tribes in Arizona, California and Nevada. Our goal is to provide funding for new tribal air recipients and to continue support for existing tribal programs. Funding amounts will be based on funding availability, the number of tribes submitting applications and the proposal evaluation criteria listed in this solicitation. Funding is not guaranteed for all applicants.

We estimate the total funds available for FY2005 activities to be approximately \$2,500,000. All proposals should be submitted for work to be performed during the period of October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005. Project budgets typically range from \$50,000 to \$120,000. Any request of more than \$120,000 will be considered based on demonstrated need and funding availability. Our available funding may not allow us to fund all proposals, or to fully fund those proposals selected. Consequently, selected applicants may be offered funds in an amount less than the proposal requests. Awards made under Section 103 do not require a non-federal match. However, applicants may contribute a non-federal cash or in-kind match toward completion of the proposed project. CAA Section 105 does have a match requirement; prospective Section 105 applicants should contact their EPA project officer for more information.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Federally recognized Indian tribes and intertribal consortia located within Region 9 are eligible to receive funds under this program.

An intertribal consortium is defined as a partnership between two or more tribes authorized by the governing bodies of those tribes to apply for and receive assistance under this program. An intertribal consortium is eligible to receive an air grant if the consortium demonstrates that:

- 1) a majority of its members meet the eligibility requirements for AIR grants;
- 2) all members that meet the eligibility requirements authorize the consortium to apply for and receive the grant, and acknowledge that funds awarded to the consortium might otherwise have been awarded to member tribes; and
- 3) only members that meet the eligibility requirements will benefit directly from the grant project (and the consortium agrees to a grant condition to that effect).

Adequate documentation of these requirements must be submitted to EPA.

Examples of Fundable Projects:

Activities conducted under these grants often include: air pollution control program development, air quality assessments, identification and investigation of air pollution sources, ambient air quality monitoring, community education and outreach on air pollution issues, and participation in local, regional and national air quality initiatives.

Activities not Eligible for Funding:

All activities must be related to air pollution and/or air pollution control.

IV. INITIAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Solicitation: This solicitation notice requesting proposals for FY 2005 tribal air grant funding will be distributed to all federally recognized tribes in Region 9.

Proposal: To apply for these funds, a proposal must be postmarked by **February 9, 2004. The proposal must address each of the Selection Criteria listed in “Section V. Initial Proposal Review Information.”** Proposals should be no longer than five pages (not including the draft budget pages) and must conform to the following format:

1. Introduction, including tribal contact information (name, title, address, phone and fax numbers, e-mail address), background information and a brief summary of environmental program work to date.
2. Program description, including a discussion of air pollution sources on and off the reservation, and a description of air quality work completed to date.

3. Statement of need, including a discussion of air quality issues identified by the tribe, which may include health impact concerns and preservation of natural or cultural resources.

4. Proposed workplan summary, including a brief description of the proposed project's activities, commitments, time frames and deliverables. (If a proposal is selected for funding, a final work plan will be negotiated between the applicant and the EPA air project officer.)

5. Proposed budget summary (maximum one page).

Proposals must include a government endorsement (i.e. the tribal leader's signature on the letter transmitting the proposal or a council resolution supporting the proposal).

Note: A full application (Form SF-424) is not required as part of this initial proposal since actual funding amounts have not been determined.

Funding Decision Notification Letters: After EPA reviews the proposals and makes funding decisions, the Air Division will send out notification letters approximately **April 5, 2004** to each tribe that submitted a funding proposal. Notification letters will include: 1) the amount of funding being offered to the tribe; 2) the date by which the application must be received by EPA; 3) the EPA project officer's comments on the proposed work plan and budget; and 4) an application packet.

Application: A complete application must be submitted to EPA to receive the funding set aside for the tribe. Applications must include the federal Standard Form 424 and a revised workplan and budget based on the project officer's comments received with the funding notification letter. **Applications must be postmarked by May 24, 2004.** Applications received after the due date risk losing funding.

Effective 10/1/03, a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number must be included in every Federal grant application. A DUNS number is required whether the grant applicant is submitting a paper application or using the government-wide electronic portal (Grants.gov). The OMB will revise the Standard Form 424 to include a block for the DUNS number. As a temporary measure, the DUNS number may be entered in the Applicant Information address block on the current Standard Form 424.

The Website where an organization can obtain a DUNS number is: <http://www.dnb.com/us/>. This takes 30 business days and there is no cost unless the organization requests expedited (1-day) processing, which includes a fee of \$40. The DUNS number is a one time allocation and once it is obtained it can be used with future grant applications. Please note that unless instructed otherwise Dun and Bradstreet may sell collected information to other companies.

Grant Award: Once the completed application is received and reviewed by EPA, the Grant Specialist and/or Project Officer will contact the tribe if any additional revisions are necessary. **Awards will be made no later than September 30, 2004.**

V. INITIAL PROPOSAL REVIEW INFORMATION

Evaluation Criteria: EPA will review all eligible proposals, considering the criteria listed below in selecting which proposals are to be allocated funding. The criteria are listed in priority order:

1. CLEAN AIR ACT NEED (Maximum 40 Points):

This criteria is intended to evaluate the tribe's need to address issues related to the implementation of the Clean Air Act. The proposal should provide information on:

- any air pollution sources located within tribal jurisdiction, including major stationary (i.e. Title V) sources, minor sources, area sources and any other sources of concern;
- the location of the reservation in areas that have been designated under the Clean Air Act "non-attainment" for one of the pollutants for which there are National Ambient Air Quality Standards (ozone, particulates, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and lead).

2. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL NEED (Maximum 30 Points):

This criteria is intended to evaluate the tribes need to address air quality issues other than those identified in #1 above. The proposal should provide information on:

- adverse impacts to tribal air quality caused by air pollution generated off-reservation, including any nearby pollution sources and or nearby urban areas; and
- other health or environmental risk concerns related to air quality.

3. EXISTING AIR QUALITY PROGRAM CAPACITY (Maximum 30 Points):

This criteria is intended to evaluate the tribe's existing air quality capacity. The proposal should provide information on:

- existing air quality monitors located on the reservation that are currently collecting air quality data;

- trained air quality staff employed by the tribe; and
- air quality codes or ordinances adopted by the tribal government.

All proposals must address each of the criteria stated above and follow the format described in “Section IV. INITIAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INFORMATION”.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION

Initial proposals that are selected for continuance in the process will be sent an application kit for funding. These recipients will be invited to submit a detailed workplan and the completed application for funding. Receipt of an application kit is not a guarantee of funding. Regulations concerning criteria for approving an application can be found in 40 CFR Part 35.511.

Regulations governing the award and administration of Environmental Program Grants for tribes including AIR: 40 CFR part 31 and 40 CFR part 35, subpart B.

Quarterly project status reports and Financial Status Reports will be required. Quarterly reports should explain the status of each workplan task and deliverable, describe project activities and provide the EPA Project Officer with information about project development. EPA expects grantees to report environmental results, when they are achieved, as part of quarterly reporting. The Financial Status Report (FSR) must accurately account for all federal funds expended and identify appropriate use of federal funds. FSRs will not be required more frequently than quarterly. A final FSR will be required at the expiration or termination of the grant.

Disputes: Procedures at 40 CFR 30.63 and 40 CFR 31.70 will apply.

Confidentiality: Applicants must clearly mark information they consider confidential and EPA will make confidentiality decisions in accordance with Agency Regulations at 40 CFR, Part 2, Subpart B.

EPA Role and Evaluation of Performance: EPA's roles and responsibilities in carrying out workplan commitments can include workplan negotiations, joint tribal and project officer End of Year Reports and site visits to grantees. These actions contribute to EPA's evaluation of grantee performance towards meeting workplan commitments.

EPA reserves the right to reject all proposals, deny funding after applications have been submitted and to not make any awards.

VII. AGENCY CONTACTS

To be considered for FY2005 funding, proposals must be postmarked by **February 9, 2004** and mailed to:

Tribal Grants Coordinator
Air Division (AIR-8)
U. S. EPA, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Thank you for your interest in the Region 9 Air Tribal Program. Tribes requesting information or assistance in preparing a grant proposal should contact one of the following Region 9 Air Project Officers:

Arizona: Doug McDaniel, (415)947-4106 or email mcdaniel.doug@epa.gov

Northern and Central California:

Gary Lance, (415) 972-3992, or email lance.gary@epa.gov

Southern California:

Sara Bartholomew, (415) 947-4100 or email bartholomew.sara@epa.gov

Nevada: Roy Ford, (415) 972-3997, or email ford.roy@epa.gov